FROM CALIFORNIA AND THE NORTH PACIFIC.

Frem Our Own Correspondent.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 24, 1859. The most important news to be transmitted to the East by the Overland Mail, which leaves San Francisco this morning, comes from the Hawaiian Islands.

The Kanaka kingdom was thrown into a terrible excitement last month by the King's attempting to kill his Private Secretary, and afterward proposing to abdicate the throne. On the 10th of September his Majesty. Kamehameha IV., while at Lahaina, whither he had gone for a carouse, shot Henry A. Neilson, his Private Secretary, with a revolver, the ball entering the chest, near the right nipple, and inflicting a severe but not dangerous wound. The Honolulu papers up to the 3d of October (our latest Honolulu papers up to the 3d of October (our latest date) give no statement of the affair, and the rumors published in the San Francisco papers are extremely contradictory in regard to the motives which led the King to try to commit homicide. The Alta, in an editorial summary of the news from the Islands,

"The King's notive was jealousy; he had been told that Neilson had seduced the Queen. After the shooting, however, His Majesty was satisfied the reports be had heard were untrue, and that Neilson was innocent; whereupon he took a notion to abdicate the throne, and piace himself within reach of the laws for trial. The announcement of this purpose caused a trisl. The announcement of this purpose caused a great excitement, and was objected to by everybody, and the King has consented to remain on the throne. So soon as Nellson is well enough to see him, His Majesty will visit him, express his regrets, and afterward he will make all the compensation in his power for the injury."

for the injury."

A correspondent of The Bulletin writes as fol-

A correspondent of The Bulletin writes as follows:

"The King, with his family and suite, have been for some time back on the island of Maui, intending to proceed theme to Hawaii. He came on business to Honolulu on the 5th of September, accompanied by his secretary, returning to Lahaina on the 9th. Either while here or previously he received information which led him to believe that Neilson had been guilty of improprieties of deportment toward the Queen, if not worse. It is supposed that malicious persons have been for some time laboring to poison the King's mind against the Queen, who is believed to be undeserving of suspicion, and that Neilson had recently given color to these charges by improper familiarities, which the Queen failed to report to her husband, through fear of his violent temper.

"The King landed at Lahaina in a very perturbed state of mind, and soon after, under some trifling or fancied provocation, inflicted a severe personal chastisement upon his wife, who is a young and very lovely person, and the object undoubtedly of his very tender attachment. On the evening of Saturday, the 10th, he cansed his vessel to be, provisioned largely, and suddenly embarked with a very few attendants, leaving his suite behind. They sailed toward Hawaii, hindered by calms and currents until near night, when the return to Lahaina was suddenly ordered. The King was evidently brooding all day upon his troubles, and toward evening drank moderately. He landed about 10 o'clock, less excited by drink than in a morbid state of mind from dwelling upon his domestic trouble, amounting probably to mental aberration. He proceeded immediately to the royal quarters, where he behaved in a violent and disorderly manner, striking the Governor of Maui and other persons whom heanet. After taking some refreshments, he called for his pistols. The attendant, hesitating to bring them, was put under arrest. Procuring the pistols, the King went directly to the quarters of the foreigners of his suite, and meeting them on their way out as down. Dr. McKibben going to his aid, was ordered off by the King, who threatened to shoot him also if he did not let him alone. He then went to the Queen's apartments, and calling her mother, told her to bid farewell to her daughter, the was about to kill her. After a distressing seems of an hour or more, the united entreaties of the two ladies prevailed on him to desist from his purpose.

"In the mean time, all the attendants and followers had feel in dismay, both natives and whites, scarcely

had fied in dismay, both natives and whites, scarcely any of them returning for twenty-four hours or more. They carried with them the wounded man, who re-

They carried with their the ceived prompt attention.

"Since the affair, all has been very quiet. The King is fully reconciled with his wife, and it is understood that he sees and deeply regrets the error of his conduct. What statement he will make public, that will not reflect most scrious discredit upon himself, it is difficult to understand. The above are undoubtedly the true facts."

Mineur, a French paper of this city, says: Il paraît que c'était une des dames de la cour, dit emme de Neilson, qui par jalousie souffia ce venin asonger dans l'oreille du roi."

It appears that it was one of the ladies of the Court, called the wife of Neilson, who was actuated

started for Honolulu. As soon as she arrived, the King sent word to Capt. Matthews that he was "all ready" to sail. The vessel soon started, the King drinking much brandy during the trip. When he arrived at Labaina, one of his servants informed him that Mr. Neilson had been on very intimate terms with his mistress on the boat; and this so enraged the King that he ordered the Steward to go below and bring up his revolvers, with one of which he soon afterward shot the supposed offender." shot the supposed offender."

This letter tries to convey the idea that there was

no suspicion of the Queen's fidelity; but this idea is

not countenanced by other writers in Honolule
The Commercial Advertiser of that place says:

"It is unnecessary for us here to rehearse the detail
of the affair alluded to, which are familiar to each of of the affair alluded to, which are familiar to each of our readers. At the time of its occurrence, his Majesty appears to have been excited by the false reports which he had heard, to a degree, which, had his suspicious been well grounded, public sentiment would have fully justified and acquitted him of evil intent. He believed he was acting on sufficient grounds—that his information was rehable—that his own personal bonor, the kenor of his throne, his family and his realm, were at stake—and that in shooting his secretary, he was simply meting out that justice which public sentiment, had those rumors been known to the public, would have imperiously demanded."

The regular correspondent of The Alta says:

"The extraordinary part of the matter is, that not

"The regular correspondent of The Alla says:

"The extraordinary part of the matter is, that not one soul in the whole community would believe in the possibility of such occurrences as those alluded to, and how the King—a clear-headed man, and an affectionate kazband—could have become so possessed as to harbor any suspicion of the kind, is a mystery to everybody." The italies are mine; they lead us to infer that

the Queen was suspected.
Of nobody, save the Queen—certainly not of a mistress—would the word "possibility" have been mistress—would the word "possibility" have been used. Chastity is a very, very rare virtue among the native Hawaiian women, but Queen Emma has always borne a spotless reputation, and now it is declared impossible that any rumors against her should be true. The King himself acknowledges that he was very wrong in suspecting her.

On the second day after the assault on Nielson, the King repented bitterly what he had done. The

the King repented bitterly what he had done. The correspondent of The Alta says:

"In a very short time his Majesty's mind realized the error under which he had been laboring, and his regrets were equal in force to those other feelings which prompted him to the act. Such a generous determination ruled him, not only to compensate, as far as possible, the subject of his mistaken conclusions, but to show respect for the public by proving that he held-himself no less responsible for his deeds because the law-could not touch him, that he determined on abdicating the throne. Such a scheme, however, found no one in the whole nation to assent to it. The excitement caused by this intention was beyond all excitement caused by this intention was beyond all compare, for the King is not only popular, but, per-sonally, he is the real keystone of our political and soschally, he is the real keystone of our pointent and so-cial systems. For a long time, however, the King would not be turned from his purpose, and although he has at last consented to the wish of the whole na-tion, he was not induced to do so till it was proved to him that his abdication would have been the ruin of the country."

his power—the feelings of self-condemnation which have since possessed him—show him to be a MAN in every sense of the word—a man of refined and tender feelings, and worthy of the position he holds. And seeing, as we do, these evidences of the noblest traits of humanity, it becomes us, as it becomes every one who has any irterest in the matter, to overlook the wrong done. The conduct of his Majesty since the occurrence needs but to be known to his subjects to raise him in their esteem, and endear him to them as their sovereign. There is not a person in his realm who will not vehemently protest against his resigning his high and responsible position, or consent to his doing it, even if he feels himself bound so to act. They believe that he has done all that justice or reason calls for in the case. The interests of the kingdom—the interests of every subject or resident, demand that the King banish forever the idea from his mind, and maintain the position which the God of nations has decreed to him, and in which every subject will loyally any or the server of the content of

decreed to him, and in which every subject will loyally support and defend him."

The King abandoned his purpose of abdicating the throne only at the solicitation of his Privy Council and the leading men in the Islands, who represented to him the disorder which would follow his abdication. He convoked the House of Nobles to meet in Honolulu on the 3d of October, "on the state of the solicitation of the solicit important business, which We will then submit to them," as the royal proclamation says.

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"to them," as the royal proclamation says.

A correspondent of The Bulletia writes thus
about the Kanaka monarch:

"Alexander Liholiho, styled Kamehameha IV., is
the son of Kiman, the daughter of old Kamehameha
the Charlemagne of Hawaii, and of old Kekuakaoa,
the stout, old Governor of Oahu. Although the junjor
of his brother Lot, he was selected heir by the late
King Kauikeaouli, whom he succeeded in 1855, at the
age of 22. In 1857, he was united in marriage to
Emma Rooke, a beautiful and intelligent lady, of chief
descent, and mixed blood. Both were educated in the
royal school, under special instructors, and received an
excellent English education. Alexander subsequently
traveled with his brother in the United States and
Europe. He has one child, born in June, 1858, an
interesting boy, whose prospects of inheriting his
father's position, precarious at best, must be greatly
impaired by such occurrences as the late unfortunate
one. The King has an excellent and generally amiable
disposition, excepting the strong animal passions of his one. The King has an excettent and generally animote disposition, excepting the strong animal passions of his race, which are his and their rum alike. He possesses a vigorous intellect, is a good writer and speaker in both English and Hawanian, and displays capability and tact in business. His most prominent faults are slavery to strong drink and sensual vice, and an uncontrollable violence of passion when excited."

It is a well known fact in Honolulu that the King

has been in the habit of going to Lahaina with his favorites-an equal number of men and womenand there holding orgies, the details of which would never do for publication. It has not been his cus tom to take the Queen with him on these occasions. but it seems that he has departed from his rule

The brig Ellenita, which escaped from this port while in the possession of the United States Mar-shal, touched at one of the smallar Hawaiian islands, and Capt. Hayes, the pirate, was arrested there by the Sheriff, but the latter was stupid enough to go the Sheriff, but the latter was stupid enough to go on board the Ellenita with his prisoner, who then set sail and escaped, being good enough to let the Sheriff got into a small boat.

Some whalers have arrived at Honolulu from the Arctic. The Commercial Advertiser says:

"Last season, up to this time (Sept. 15) there had been 22 arrivals of whaleships from the North, against only three this season.

only three this season.

"In regard to the shipment of oil and bone, we may here say, that although orders have been sent by owners to their shipmasters not to ship largely by merchant ers to their shipmasters not to ship fargerly by merchant vessels, yet there will be an unusually large amount of oil go home this Fall. No less than 68 ships out on their third and fourth ecasons, will all go home, with, per-haps, one or two exceptions. Beside these, quite a number of the larger vessels, out on their second sen-son, will be ordered to cruise homeward. There will be at least a total of 75 to 80 whaleships homeward bound this Fall, and the greater part of the oil shipped will go by them."
The correspondent of The Alta says:

"On the 8th of September the new liquor tariff went into effect. This provides for the payment of \$3 per gallon on spirituous liquors, instead of \$6, the old rate. There will be a complete change in the whole tariff on the 24th June, 1866. This is in consequence of the new French treaty.

There is a face fiquor manufactured nere, contra-band, known by the name of 'Okolehao,' made from the 'ti-root.' It tastes very much like old Scotch whisky, and readily assimilates with it. The literal meaning of the word will be recognized by those ac-quainted with Hawaiian language, as betokening the manner in which it is distilled, viz.: from a gan-barrel, or 'iron hole.' I have drunk some in my day, and can bear witness to its potency. No head-ache after a gul-

S. S. Phillips, merchant in this city, has failed.

His creditors are mostly in Boston.
Elliott & Bell, grocers, have also failed.

Court, called the wife of Neilson, who was actuated by jealousy to blow this lying poison into the ear of the King.

On the other hand, a private letter from Honolu In. communicated to The Alta, says:

"Before his Majesty's departure for Labaina, he sent a native to Koolan to inform his mistress that i was his intention to go to Labaina, that he wished her to go along with him, and that she must come over immediately. The woman forthwith packed up and started for Honolulu. As soon as she arrived, the King sent word to Cant. Matthews that he was "all the means of coming.

There are very few married couples in California.

THE LOSS OF THE CLIPPER SHIP MASTIFF. Capt. Johnson and Richard H. Dana, jr., esq., of the Mastiff, have furnished The Alta California with the subjoined graphic accounts of the catastrophe, which will be read with thrilling interest:

which will be read with thrilling interest:

The STATEMENT OF CAPT. JOHNSON.

The ship Mastiff, under my command, sailed from San Francisco, Sept. 10, 1839, having on board as paseengers, Mrs. Johnson, my wife, Richard H. Dana, r., esq., Geo. Clifford, C. C. Harris, S. Shanborn, and J. H. C. Richmond, and one hundred and seventy-five Chinese passengers between decks, beside a crew of twenty-eight men, boundto Hong Kong, via Honolulu. Nothing material happened until the afternoon of the 15th of September, at about 5 p. m., in lat. 30° 46° N., and longitude 128° 35′ W., going along with light winds and fine weather. An alarm of fire was raised and smoke discovered issuing from the ventilators abaft the cabin. Instantly the hose was put to the force pump and set in motion, first and second officers taking the pipe through the lassarette into the between-decks, but were driven back by the heavy smoke and nre, which was fearful. We still kept the engine at work. The powder magazine being over the fire, work. The powder magazine being over the fire, containing powder enough to blow the ship to atoms. I went below with my steward, got it out and had it thrown overboard, first giving orders to back the main topsail and set the ensign in distress; then in order to ascertain the position of the fire, I went myself between decks, but the smoke being so dense, was immediately driven back but as heing so dense, was immediately driven back, but as nearly as I could see, the afterpart of the ship between decks was completely on fire. A large quantity of hay, berths, bedding, mats, &c., belonging to the Chicoal systems. For a long time, however, the King would not be turned from his purpose, and although he has at last consented to the wish of the whole nation, he was not induced to do so till it was proved to him that his abdication would have been the ruin of the country."

The Honolula Advertiser says:

The

one of my cabin passengers, had not forgotten his two

hracelet was found on one of my men, sewed in his cap, when I had them searched in the Consulate at Honolulu.

On arriving on beard the Achilles I was received with much cordisity, and was most kindly and hospitally cared for, with all my passenger and crew, and I take this occasion to state, in this public manuer, that, without the aid of Capt. Hart and his reasel, it is my deliberate opinion that not a soul on heard could have been saved. To him, therefore, under the Providence of God, are we indented for our lives. For his kind sympathy and aid I thank him in behalf of myself and the ship's company.

After consulting with Capt. Hart, we concluded to go direct to Honolulu, being on his way to Sydney fnot wanting him to deviate from his voyage), and the nearest port to land us. Next morning after counting the passengers. I found one Chinaman was missing. The Chineses said he went below to save his money and did not return. It is supposed he was smothered with the smake.

MR. DANA'S STATEMENT.

HONOLULU, Oct. 3, 1859.

Editors Alta: You will remember I esteemed myself fortunate in being able to procure a passage in the noble chipper ship Mastiff; and as she beatout of the Golden Gate, and stood off to sea, complete in all her equipments, under one of the best of commanders, with tried and trusty officers and a strong crew, furnished to repletion with the comforts and luxuries of sea life, with the prospect of the delightful Pacific hreczes to bear us to the Hawaiian Islands—few ships companies could present a more cheerful spectacle than did ours. On the afternoon of the fifth day out (Thursday, Sept. 15), between 4:30 and 5 p. m., as we were pencefully breathed along in charming weather, with all sail set, an alarm of fire was raised; smoke rose up through the ventilators aft; and our Chinese passengers—of whom we had one hundred and seventy-live quartered in the between-decks—rushed on deck in consternation. Capt. Johnson instantly ordered the bose to the force pump and immediately a stream was set in motiou,

S. S. Phillips, merchant in this city, has failed.
His creditors are mostly in Boston.
Elliott & Bell, grocers, have also failed.
George W. Josselyn has applied for the benefit of the Insolvent Law: debts \$3,3272.
Divorces have been granted in this city to Aurilias. Jacques from James A. Jacques, and in Sacramento to Sarah M. Lloid from William Lloid. In this city, Judge Norton refused a divorce in the case of Edward D. Shedd against Mary Ann Shedd. The husband proved that he had left his wife in Massachusetts when he came to California, that he requested her to follow him; that she refused; but he did not prove that he had provided her with the means of coming.

There are very few married couples in California that have celebrated their silver wedding; but there was such a celebration in Placerville on the 16th inst., the parties being L. Tamenuvald and wife.

The upper part of the town of Yreka was burned down yesterday. We have no particulars.

The greater part of the town of Coulterville, Mariposa County, has been destroyed by fire.

The superintendent of Streets of San Francisco, says:

"In the past eleven months there have been 16,000 lineal feet of street graded, 6,549 feet planked, and 1,375 feet paved. Of street crossings there have been 2,635 feet paved. Of brick sewers there have been 2,635 feet constructed, and about tree miles of frame sewers, Six miles of sidewalk have been saued, and 12,000 notices of street obstructions served."

The fortification on Alcatraz Island in the entrance of San Francisco Bay have been finished, and some 0. S. troops to occupy them as a garrison of the served of the constructed before they observed by the served of the constructed before they shad and some 0. S. troops to occupy them as a garrison of the served of the constructed before they shad and some 0. S. troops to occupy them as a garrison of the served of the constructed before they shad and some 0. S. troops to occupy them as a garrison of the served of the constructed before they shad and some 0. S. troops to

prisoned fire burstine through the decks at any instant, were not the most amplicious circumstances for our "enim conference" he proposed, yet it was held—Jodge Harris of Henoluli (who had pulled an oar in the gig, manfolly, all the white, and now came on board again to offer adi). Capt. Johnson and myself meeting on the quarter dock, where it was too evident to med consideration, that nothing remained for the brawest and most faithful communder but to abandon his ship. Every living creature was out of the ship, the agecie was saved; all accessible places on deck had been cleared of their contents, and the flames would soon be through the decks. All but the two quarter-boats now left her for the last time, and when we got on the deck of the Achilles, the flames burst, with a loud report, through the main deck, near the mainmant. Two figures were still visible in the lurid twillight lingering on the quarter deck of the ship of their pide—the master and chief mate. They now left her in the order of hattle, the captain last, and precisely at 6j o'clock, as timed by the captain's watch, in the light of the flames, as he was intrination of his boat, and not more than two hours after the next intimation of his boat, and not more than two hours after the next intimation of his, boat, and not more than two hours after the next intimation of his, this noble ship, so swift, so strong so high in

intimation of arc, this noble ship, so swift, so strong, so high in reputation, so complete in all her appointments, was a deserted anass of time.

We were received so beard the Achilles with a hearty a kindly welcome by her commander, and as we gathered on the quarter-deck, we saw the flames go up the masts of the Mastiff in spires, the sails and rigging catch, and each most fall, and in a few hours, as we filled away for the Sandwich Islands, we could see only the distant light of a borning huk on the night-covered ocean. Nothing can exceed the frank, cheerful and generous hospitality of Capt. Hart, of the Achilles. He and his wife, who sails with him, have submitted to many inconveniences to give us full accommodations, and the table has been daily furnished in the most liberal manner. His betweet-decks being full of carge, a good deal of difficulty was experienced in accommodating the Chinese, and, as no previsions were saved from the Mastiff except live stock, had it not been that the Achilles was loaded with wheat, which was given boiled to the Chinese, there would have been errious trouble on the score of food. Fortunately, there was water enough on beard. The Achilles was bound from San Francisco to Sydney, and Capt. Hart at once consented to bear up and take us to the Sandwich Islands. The place of our disacter was led. 20 deg. 46 min. north, lon. 128 deg. 35 min. west.

We all felt that had there not been a vessel in sight, the chance of saving any lives was very small, and all knew how often one sails the Pacitic for weeks without socing a vessel. There was also abundant cause for gratitude that all the dangers were so successfully passed. And i hope it may not be an indeficacy to say that this was acknowledged by all our passengers, who spoutaneously united in the church service of thankswing for preservation at eac, that night in the cabin of the Achilles.

The mere statement of the fact is entagy enough upon the condent that prudence and justice would dictate, and generosity invite: first to attem

ship having also sent her beat, with an officer, to our sid). All were employed in possing and repussing between the two ships, the Achilles being at the time hove to, to windward of the burning ship, about we mile distant, at which distance she was kept by the memewering of her sails.

Mr. Durn, one of any cabin passempers, had not forgotten his two of the conduct of the cabin passempers, and I can bear witness for my associates that he are was an obstruction, and some of them

my associates that he one was an obstruction, and some of them rendered valuable aid.

I would like to add, that the Chinese, after the punic had subsided, and they saw a fair chance for life, were for the most part patient and obediend, especially when a poken to calmy and kindly. Their conduct on board the Achilles, where they necessarily were subjected to great inconveniences and deprivations, was such as to file every one with a heart of fiesh, with the kindest feelings of respect and sympathy toward them.

The Mastiff is a loss to the American marine, but I hope it, will be compensated for by the contributions who has made at her death to the reputation of our merchant service.

Believe me, truly yours, RICHARD H. DANA, JR.

The following letter from the cabin passengers of

Believe me, truly yours. RICHARD H. DANA, Jr.

The following letter from the cabin passengers of
the Mastiff, addressed to Capt. Johnson, furnishes an
ample testimonial and certification of his bravery and
coolness throughout the trying occasion:
AT Sra—OFF HOSOLULE, Sept. 26, 1859.

To Capt. Wm. O. Johnson, late of ship Mastiff:
Dran Sir: As the time for separation has come, we,
the cabin passengers of the late ship Mastiff, desire to
offer you our condolence on your misfortune and loss,
and our congratulations on the manner in which you
encountered the perils and performed your day, fully sustaining
your previous high reputation.

We offer you our sympathles on the sudden loss of a noble
thip, your home and so long the home of your family, the object
of so much of your care and labors, and of your affections and excusable pride.

We condole with you on the pecuniary losses you have not
with, and for them we can sursect no better concellation than the

sengers and crew; and even the animals received your humanattentions.

The knowledge of these facts must add to your personal reputation among merchants, underwriters, and seamen, as it will to
the good name of the American mercantile martin.

We hope soon to hear of you in the command of as fine a ship
as the Mastin, enjoying, as before, the unlimited combinate of
the public in your capacity of supercargo and merchant, as well
as of master; and we wish you all the happiness and prosperity
compatible with the changes and chances of this mortal life.

Believe us, ever truly your friends,

RICH, H. DANA, TR.

CHABLES COFFIN HARRIS,

GEORGE CLIFFORD,

JAS, H. C. RICHMOND.

The Mastiff was built in East Boston, in 1856, by

The Mastiff was built in East Boston, in 1856, by Donald McKay. She was insured at the offices in Boston for the sum of \$30,000.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

PARTON'S JACKSON.

LIFE OF ANDREW JACKSON. In Three Vols. By Jakes Pakros. Vol. L. Ivo. pp. 636. Mason Brothers. In this biography, which is framed on a more elaborate plan, and exhibits more ambitious pretensions, than the former productions of the author in the same department of composition, Mr. Parton makes no attempt to elevate his subject to the character of a sage, or even to clothe him with the sublimest attributes of the hero. He' appears to have addressed himself to his task in the spirit of dogged impartiality, and has certainly permitted no vail of illusion to be drawn over his eyes by political or personal enthusiasm. As portrayed by his graphic pen, Andrew Jackson is presented, in the early part of his life, as a bold adventurer; little indebted to education; of daring and unscrupulous purpose; sudden and fierce in quarrel; devoted in friendship; relentless in enmity; with a deep sense of religion, quickened by his Scotch Presbyterian training, but more addicted to oaths, than to prayers; and in the various relations of private life displaying a kindness, a considerateness, a self-possession in wonderful contrast with the military swagger and bravado of his public career. Andrew Jackson was born, March 15, 1767, at

a settlement on the borders of North and South Carolina, but within the limits of the former State. This point is fully elucidated by Mr. Parton, who clearly shows that General Jackson was not a native of South Carolina, although in accordance with the prevailing opinion during his life-time, he always supposed himself to have been born in that State. His parents were Scotch Irish emigrants from Carrackfergus, of the humblest condition in life, and to add to the struggles of the family with adversity, his father died just before the birth of the son. His mother was obliged to find a home, as housekeeper and poor relation, in the family of a brother-in-law, and here young Andrew passed the first ten or welve years of his life. He soon acquired the reputation of being the most mischievous boy in the neighborhood; always full of pranks, and getting into trouble. His school-days were not of the most promising character; nor, judging from Mr. Parton's lively description, was his youthful brain in danger of being turned by any superfluity of book-

In due time the boy was sent to an "old-field school," an institution not much unlike the road-side schools in Ireland, of which we read. The northern reader is, perhaps, not aware that an "old field" is not a field at all, but a pine forest. When crop after crop of cotton, without rotation, has exhausted the soil, the fences are taken away, the land lies waste, the young pines at once spring up, and soon cover the whole field with a thick growth of wood. In one of these old fields, the rudest possible shanty of a log-house is erected, with a fire-place that extends from side to side, and occupies a third of the interior. In winter, the interstices of the log walls are filled up with clay, which the restless fingers of the boys make haste to remove in time to admit the first warm airs of Spring. An itinerant schoolmaster presents himself in a neighborhood; the responsible farmers pledge him a certain number of pupils; and an old-field school is established for the season. Such schools, called by the same name, exist to son. Such schools, called by the same name, exist to this day in the Carolinus, differing little from those which Andrew Jackson attended in his childhood. which Andrew Jackson attended in his childhood. Reading, writing, and arithmetic were all the branches taught in the early day. Among a crowd of urchins seated on the slab benches of a school like this, fancy a tall, slender boy, with blue bright eyes, a freekled face, an abundance of long sandy hair, and clad in coarse, copperas-colored cloth, with bare feet dangling and kicking—and you have in your mind's eye a picture of Andy as he appeared in his old-field school days in the Waxhaw settlement.

His mother seems to have had more ambitious.

His mother seems to have had more ambitious views for her son, and hoped that by being enabled to obtain for him a liberal education, she would have the pleasure to see him "wag his pow in a pulpit" as a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church. He was not destined, however, to "beat the drum ecclesiastic," though if his good mother's wishes could have been realized, he would doubtless have proved a valiant soldier of the "church militant." and dealt thick and heavy blows on the sinner and heretic, with as much unction as he subsequently discomfited the invaders of his country at New-Orleans. He was a fighter from his earliest boxbood. Not a drop of tame blood ran in his

Andy was a wild, frolicsome, willful, mischievous, daring, reckless boy; generous to a friend, but never content to submit to a stronger enemy. He was passionately fond of those sports which are mimic battles; above all, wrestling. Being a slender boy, more active than strong, he was often thrown.

"I could throw him three times out of four," an old schoolmate used to say, "but he would never stay throwed. He was dead game, even then, and never good give up."

would give up." ould give up."

He was exceedingly fond of running foot-races, of

He was exceedingly fond of running foot-races, of leaping the bar, and jumping; and in such sports he was excelled by no one of his years. To younger boys, who never questioned his mastery, he was a generous protector; there was nothing he would not do to defend them. His equals and superiors found him self-willed, somewhat overbearing, easily offended, very irascible, and, upon the whole, "difficult to get along with." One of them said, many yearsafter, in the hear of controversy, that of all the boys he had ever known Andrew Jackson was the only bully who was not also a coward.

a coward.

But the boy, it appears, had a special cause of irritation in a disagreeable disease, name unknown, which induces a habit of—not to put too fine a point on it—"slobbering." Wee to any boy who presumed to jest at this misfortune! Andy was upon him incontinently, and there was either a fight or a drubbing. There is a story, too, of some boys secretly loading a

cun to the muzzle, and giving it to young Jackson to fire off, that they might have the pieasure of seeing it "kick" him over. They had that pleasure. Springing up from the ground, the boy, in a fremry of pas-

n, exclaimed:
"By G-d, if one of you laughs, I'll kill him!"

He soon had an opportunity for pursuing higher game. He was nine years old when the Declaration of Independence was signed. By the time the war approached the obscure settlement in the region of the Catawba, where he was born, he was a little more than thirteen. A change now came over his rustic life. The school-house was closed, the peaceful labors of the people interrupted. His elder brother Hugh had already mounted his horse and ridden southward to meet the bloody strife. "It was on the 29th of May, 1780, that Tarleton, with three hundred horsemen, surprised a detachment of militia in the Waxhaw settlement, and killed one hundred and thirteen of them, and wounded a hundred and fifty. The wounded, abandoned to the care of the settlers, were quartered in the houses of the vicinity: the old log Waxhaw meeting-house itself being converted into a hospital for the most desperate cases. Mrs. Jackson was one of the kind women who ministered to the wounded soldiers in the church, and under that roof her boys first saw what war was. The men were dreadfully mangled. Some had received as many as thirteen wounds, and none less than three. For many days Andrew and his brother assisted their mother in waiting upon the sick men; Andrew, more in rage than pity, though pitiful by nature, burning to avenge their wounds and his brother's death." Tarleton's massacre at the Waxhaws kindled the

flames of war in all that region of the Carolinas. Andrew, with his brother Robert, was present at Sumter's attack on the British post of Hanging Rock where he might have received his first lesson in the art of war. Soon after he passed his fourteenth birthday, there ensued a fierce intestine warfare in the vicinity of his home; a war of whig and tory, neighbor against neighbor, brother against brother, and even father against son. Among other instances of the madness that prevailed, a case is related of a whig, who, having found a friend murdered and mutilated, devoted himself to the slaving of tories. He hunted and lay in wait for them, and before the war ended had killed twenty; and then, recovering from that insanity, lived the rest of his days a conscience-stricken wretch. Andrew and his brother soon began to take a personal share in the eventful conflict. Without enlisting in any regular corps, they plunged into the fight on their own hook, joining small parties that went out on single enterprises of retaliation, mounted on their own horses, and carrying their own weapons. Mr. Parton gives a description of one of his adventures in this line which illustrates both the time and the

In that fierce, Scotch-Indian warfare, the absence of a father from home was often a better protection to his family than his presence; because his presence invited attack. The main object of both parties was to kill the fighting men, and to avenge the slaying of partisans. The house of the quiet hero Hicks, for example, was safe, until it was noised about among the tories that Hicks was at home. And thus it came to pass, that when a whig soldier of any note desired to spend a night with his family, his neighbors were accustomed to turn out and serve as a guard to his house while he slept. Behold Robert and Andrew Jackson, with six others, thus employed one night in the Spring of 1781, at the domicil of a neighbor, Capt. Sands. The guard on this occasion was more a friendly trubute to an active partisan than a service considered necessary to his safety. In short, the night was not far advanced, before the whole party were snugly housed and stretched upon the floor,

short, the night was not far advanced, before the whole party were soughy housed and stretched upon the floor, all sound asleep, except one, a British deserter, who was restless, and dozed at intervals.

Danger was near. A band of tories, bent on taking the life of Captain Sands, approached the house in two divisions; one party moving toward the front door, the other toward the back. The wakeful soldier, hearing a suspicious noise, rose, went out of doors to learn its cause, and saw the foe stealthily nearing the house. He ran in in terror, and seizing Andrew Jackson, who lay next the door, by the hair, exclaimed:

"The tories are upon us!"

lay next the door, by the hair, exclaimed:

"The tories are upon us!"

Andrew sprang up, andr an out. Seeing a body of men in the distance, he placed the end of his gun in the low fork of a tree near the door, and hailed them. No reply. He hailed them a second time. No reply. They quickened their pace, and had come within a few rods of the door. By this time, too, the guard in the house had been roused, and were gathered in a group behind the boy. Andrew discharged his musket; upon which the tories fired a volley, which killed the hapless deserter who had given the alarm. The other party of tories, who were approaching the house from the other side, hearing this discharge, and the rush of bullets above their heads, supposed that the firing proceeded from a party that had issued from the house. They now fired a volley, which sent a shower of balls whistling about their heads, supposed that the firing proceeded from a party that had issued from the house. They now fired a volley, which sent a shower of balls whistling about the heads of their friends on the other side. Both parties hesitated, and then halted. Andrew having thus, by his single discharge, puzzled and stopped the enemy, retired to the house, where he and his comrades kept up a brisk fire from the windows. One of the guard tell mortally wounded by his side, and another received a wound less severe. In the midst of this singular contest, a bugle was heard, some distance off, sounding the cavalry charge; whereupon the tories, concluding that they had come upon an ambush of whigs, and were about to be assailed by horse and foot, fled to where they had left their horses, mounted, dashed pell-mell into the woods, and were seen no more. It appeared afterward, that the bugle-charge was sounded by a neighbor, who, judging from the noise of muskery that Captain Sands was attacked, and having not a man with him in his house, gave the blast upon the trumpet, thinking that even a trick so stale, aided by the darkness of the night, might have some effect in alarming the assailants. ome effect in alarming the assailants.

After peace was restored to his neighborhood,

young Jackson embraced every opportunity to engage in a "free fight," beside sharing largely in the fun and frolic, which were almost as congenial to his disposition, as the drubbing of an adversary. Several Charleston families of wealth and distinction were waiting in the settlement for the evacuation of their city. With the young men, whose acquaintance he thus made, Andrew led a life in the ummer and Autumn of 1782 that was more merry than wise. He now began to betray that taste for horse-flesh which became such a decided passion in after life. He ran races and rode races, gambled a little, drank a little, indulged in a cock-fight occasionally, and presented a glorious specimen of the young America of that day. He seems to have had but a faint love for his Carolina relations, and was probably regarded as the scapegrace of the family. It is credibly related that his first attempt at

earning a living for himself was in the capacity of a country schoolmaster; but after trying his hand in this uncongenial employment for a short time, he resolved to study law. Gathering together his scanty earnings, he mounts his horse, sets his face to the northward in quest of a master with whom to pursue his law studies, and finally enters an office in Salisbury, N. C., at the age of eighteen. Of his residence in that pleasant old town, Mr. Parton has succeeded in bagging some characteristic if not altogether edifying reminiscences.

istic if not altogether edifying reminiscences.

Salisbury teems with traditious respecting the residence there of Andrew Jackson as a student of law. Their general tener may be expressed in the language of the first old resident of the town, to whom I applied for information: "Andrew Jackson was the most roaring, rollicking, game-cocking, horse-racing, card-playing, mischievous fellow, that ever lived in Salisbury." Add to this such expressions as these: "He did not trouble the law-books much;" "he was more in the stable than in the office;" "he was the head of all the rowdies hereabouts." That is the substance of what the Salisbury of 1859 has to say of the Andrew Jackson of 1785.

Nothing is more likely than that he was a roaring,

Nothing is more likely than that he was a roaring, rollicking fellow, overflowing with life and spirits, and rejoicing to engage in all the fun that was going; but I do not believe that he neglected his duties at the office to the extent to which Salisbury says he did. There are good reasons for doubting it. At no part of Jackson's career, when we can get a look at him

through a pair of trustworthy eyes, do we find him trifling with life. We find him often wrong, but al-ways earnest. He never so much as raised a field of cotton which he did not have done in the best manner ways cotton which he did not have done in the best manner known to him. It was not in the nature of this young man to take a great deal of trouble to get a chance to study law, and then entirely to throw away that chance. Of course he never became, in any proper sense of the word, a lawyer; but that he was not dligent and eager in picking up the legal knowledge necessary for practice at that day, will become less credible to the reader the more he knows of him. Once, in the White House, forty-five years after this period, when some one from Salisbury reminded him of his residence in that town, he said, with a smile, and a look of retrespection on his aged face, "Yes, I lived at old Salisbury. I was but a raw had then, but I did my best."

There is now in Salisbury but one person who was a resident of the place when Jackson was a student of law, and that is Aunt Judy, an aged and beloved servant of the family who live on the site of the former residence of Judge McCay. Aunt Judy, at that time, was a girl about twelve years of d, and belonged to the landlord of the Rowan House, where she waited at table, and assisted in the general work of the house. She remembers the three Inseparables at the tavern, Jackson, Crawford, and McNairy. Jackson, she says, was a fair, clear-complexioned young man, with long saudy hair—"one of the genteel young men of the place." He owned horses, she thinks; certainly he was much occupied with horses, and was often away on parties of pleasure. He was very fond of the ladies, quite a bean in the town, and a very gay, lively tellow, says Aunt Judy. She remembers just one trifling incident of those merry times. Jackson and his two friends came home from hunting one day, anteeft their guns in Jackson's room, which opened upon the street. While the lads were gone to dinner, she was sent to put Jackson's room in order; and while here, took up one of the guns, and began to "fool with it." It went off in her hands, and threw a shower of buck-shot about the room. She heard the matter, but waited not to explain. She dropped the gun, ran out of the room, and concealed herself till the flurry was over. That is all Annt Judy can remember clearly. She thinks she used to hear that all three of the students went away from Salisbury, unable to nay their bill at the tavern. She has also a dim recollection of once handing young Jackson a glass of water at dinner; but she never spoke to him, nor he to her.

Among the most respectable ladies in Salisbury, are

glass of water at dinner; but she never spoke to him, nor he to her.

Among the most respectable ladies in Salisbury, are the Misses —, whose ancestors were old residents of the town when Lord Cornwallis had his quarters near their father's house. Their parents, aunts, and uncles, were living in the town when Jackson lived there. One of their uncles, George Duan by name, was in Jackson's own roistering set, and afterward went with him to Tennessee, and lived long in his family. These ladies, therefore, are well informed respecting the life of Jackson in their native town, and the more so, as their mother was much in the habit of talking of him in their hearing after he became famous. They fully confirm the current tradition of the town with regard to the young student's sportive habits. He played cards, fought cocks, ran horses, threw the "long bullet" (cannon ball, slung in a strap, and thrown as a trial of strength), carried off gates, removed out-houses to remote fields, and occasionally indulged in a downright drunken debanch. But he was not licentious nor particularly quarrelsome.

After completing his studies, according to the fashion of the times, Jackson makes his way to

fashion of the times, Jackson makes his way to Tennessee, and becomes an inhabitant of that State about the time of his reaching the age of twentyone. Here, as lawyer, judge, planter, country merchant, horse-racer, cock-fighter, whisky-drinker, he finds full scope for his athletic energies. His entrance on political and military life took place within a few years. Of his career until 1814, the volume contains ample and satisfactory details. We need not dwell upon the incidents of this period of his life, as for the most part they are familiar to the readers of American history. Mr. Parton has evidently spared no pains in the accumulation of materials for his comprehensive narrative. He has mastered the voluminous mass of literature relating to the subject, visited in person the principal localities of which Jackson was a resident, gathered a rich store of facts from the recollection of cotemporaries, and embodied the results of his researches in a volume which, if it has not strenuously aimed at elegance or precision of style, is never deficient in vivacity and force. It forms a worthy commencement of a noble work, which, we doubt not, will enhance the fame of its subject, as well as the popular reputation of its author.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Twelve Years of a Soldier's Life in India; being Extracts from the Letters of the late Major W. S. R. Hodson, B. A. Edited by his Brother, the Rev. George H. Hodson, M. A. Izmo, pp. 444. Ticknor & Fields.

Carolina Sports by Land and Water. By the Hon. Wm. Elliot. 12mo. pp. 292. Derby & Jackson.

The Virginiums; A Tale of the Last Century. By W. M. Thackerry. 8 vo. pp. 411. Harper & Brothers.

Life of Andrew Jackson. In Three Volumes. By James Parton. Vol. 1. 8 vo. pp. 636. Mason Brothers.

The Great Tribulation; Or, Things Conling on the Earth. By the Rev. John Cumming, D. D. 12mo. pp. 390. Radd & Carleton.

the Rev. John Cumming, D. D. 12mo. pp. 385. Roof Carleton,
Way-Side Glimpses, North and South. By Lillian Foster. 12mo. pp. 256. The Same.
The Government Class Book. By Andrew W. Young. 12mo. pp. 308. H. Dayton.
The Land of the Axicos; Or, Two Years in Mexico. By A. K. Shepard. 12mo. pp. 209. Weed Parsona & Co. Shepard. 12mo. pp. 209. Weed Parsona & Co. The New Night Caps. 15mo. pp. 207. D. Appleton & Co. Martha's Hooks and Eyes. 13mo. pp. 129. The Same. Uncle Merry's Library, 6 vols. 12mo. H. Dayton.
The Cottage and its Visitor. 12mo. pp. 242. Robert Carter & Studies.

Religious and Moral Sentences culled from the Works of Shakspeare. With an Introduction by Frederic D. Huntington, D. D. 18mo. pp. 226. James Munroe & Co.
The Pic-Nic Papers. By Charles Dickens. 8vo. pp. 172. T. B.
Feterson & Co.
Wild Southern Scenes. By J. B. Jones, esq. 12mo. pp. 562.
The Same.
Select Sermons preached in the Broadway Church. Ry the Rev.
E. H. Chapin, D. D. 12mo. pp. 343. Henry Lyon.

LATER NEWS FROM THE RIO GRANDE. AN AFFIDAVIT THAT BROWNSVILLE WAS STORMED

AND TAKEN BY CORTINAS-NO QUARTERS-

PRISONERS MASSACRED.

Prom The N. O. Delta, Nov. 13.

The steamer Charles Morgan, from Indianola, arrived late last night, bringing the latest news from Brownsville, which place has been stormed and captured by Cortinas, as appears by the following affidavit of one of its escaped citizens, a copy of which has come to to this office:

"Corpus Christi, Nov. 7, 1859.

"On the 29th of October, Cortinas and his band surrounded the Town of Brownsville. On the 31st, Cortinas ordered the barricades to be charged; at the same time his men made good an entrance from the yards at the back of the stores and dwelling-houses; in a moment his men and ours were mixed up in a hand-to-hand fight, and in a moment more the barricades were forced. After five hours hand-to-hand fighting, we were forced to retreat, and succeeded in making our escape to the other side of the river.

"Cortinas's attacking party consisted of about four hundred men, and had in all probability two hundred men patrolling the country to prevent communication with the city.

"In all told we had about 50 white men under arms.

with the city.

"In all told we had about 50 white men under arms, and these were aided by 150 Mexicans, sent from Matanoros, Col. Manuel (Naranco) commander of the

L can form no idea of the number of men killed on "I can form no idea of the number of men killed on either side. The cry of the Mexicans was, 'Death to eil Americans! No quarters!' And such was truly the case, as it proved, by the death of every man Cortinas has taken prisoner. On Tuesday, Cortinas had entire possession of Brownsville. W. J. MILLER.

"The State of Texas, County of Neucat.—Before me, E. B., Mosely, Notary Public in and for said county and State, personally appeared W. J. Miller, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that the foregoing silidavit is strictly true. "In testimony, I have here unto stemed my name and accessid seal of office, this ith day of November, 1866.

E. B. MOSELY.

"In presence of L. Meyers, and John L. Morris." This is the affidavit which a telegraphic dispatch the other day said was discredited in New-Orleans.

OPPOSITION TO THE WIDENING OF WORTH STREET .- Another meeting of the property owners of Worth street, opposed to the widening son and Baxter streets, as was proposed by the Com-mon Council, was held at 31 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in Appleton's Building. The attendance was rather sparse, and the committee which was expected to report on matters in general, did not appear to be on hand. Tax Receiver James Kelly was called to the chair, and informally stated that the committee had reported to him great progress in the getting of names, as remonstrants before the Supreme Court. He had not the slightest doubt that more than two-thirds were opposed, and that those in favor of the improvement could all be put into a cab. The meeting adjourned